20th August 1955]

SRI S. RAMALINGAM :—" What are the allegations that were reported against the Deputy Registrar of Co-operative Societies? " 9–30 a.m.

THE HON. SRI A. B. SHETTY :—" One is that he made use of the society's van whenever he visited Tiruchirappalli officially and no amount was paid by him towards hire charges; another is that he scandalized the ex-Service men."

SRI K. VINAYAKAM :—" Sir. is it a fact that for the misconduct of this officer, a reward was given to him in the form of promoting him from Deputy Registrar to Joint Registrar of Co-operative Societies? "

THE HON. SRI A. B. SHETTY :—" The explanation of the officer was considered satisfactory, Sir."

Opening of a fire station at Tindivanam.

* 2163 *Q.*—SRI M. VENUGOPALA GOUNDER : Will the Hon. the Minister for Finance be pleased to state whether any steps have been taken so far to open a fire station at Tindivanam in South Arcot district?

THE HON. SRI C. SUBRAMANIAM :—" Tindivanam is one of the municipal towns in which it is proposed to open a Fire Station in due course."

SRI K. ARANGANATHAN :—" Sir, what would be the length of time meant by the term ' in due course '? "

THE HON. SRI C. SUBRAMANIAM :—" I am unable to predict the probable time, Sir."

Formation of rural co-operative banks in the State.

* 2164 *Q.*—SRI V. R. KRISHNA AYYAR : Will the Hon. the Minister for Health be pleased to state how many rural banks are proposed to be started under the aegis of the Government in Malabar district and in which taluks?

THE HON. SRI A. B. SHETTY :—" A Rural Co-operative Bank has been organized at Mannur in the Eranad taluk in the Malabar (South) Circle. It has yet to be registered. Proposals for the conversion of 21 Producers-*cum*-Consumers Societies into Rural Co-operative Banks are also being examined by the Registrar of Co-operative Societies."

* 2165 *Q.*—SRI N. K. PALANISAMY : Will the Hon. the Minister for Health be pleased to state—

(*a*) whether the Madras State Advisory Co-operative Council met on 29th December 1954 and worked out any scheme for the formation of rural co-operative banks; and

(*b*) the number of such banks to be formed in this State?